

### **Remarks**

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application in the Office Action dated August 2, 2005. Claims 60, 63, 65-69, 74, 78-79, 87, 88, 91-94, 188, 206, 225, 226 and 228 stand rejected. Claims 225, 226 and 228 are withdrawn from consideration. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 188 and 206 are canceled and claims 60, 63, 65-69, 74, 78-79, 87, 88, and 91-94 are pending. Applicants address concerns presented in the Office Action in the comments below.

#### **I. Amended Claims**

Claims 60, 63, 65-69, 74, 78-79, 87, 88, 91-94, 188 and 206 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 188 and 206 have been canceled. Any basis for rejection for the remaining pending claims has been obviated with the present amendment.

#### **II. Title**

The title has been amended to more clearly reflect the invention now recited in the pending claims.

#### **III. Abstract**

The Abstract has been replaced by a new Abstract provided herewith as well as on a separate sheet.

#### **IV. Information Disclosure Statement**

An Information Disclosure Statement has been filed herewith under 1.97(c)(2) and is accompanied by the fee set forth in §1.17(p) of \$180.00. It is respectfully requested that the disclosed references be made of record in the above-identified application and that they be given careful consideration.

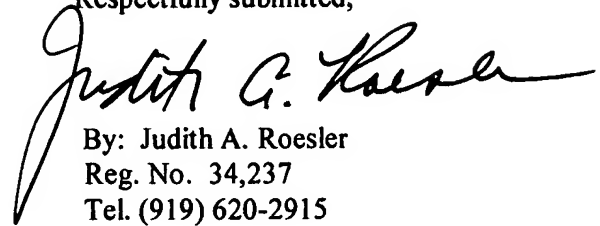
#### **V. Conclusion**

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments overcome and/or obviate any basis for

rejecting the claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all the pending claims.

December 30, 2005  
Customer No. 35467  
bioMerieux, Inc.  
100 Rodolphe Street  
Durham, NC 27712

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith A. Roesler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

By: Judith A. Roesler  
Reg. No. 34,237  
Tel. (919) 620-2915